

REMARKS

Claims 14, 16, and 17 stand allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1-13 and 15 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hinoshita et al., U.S. patent 5,528,152 in view of Muntz, U.S. patent 6,532,215.

Claims 1-4, 8, 10-14, 16, and 17 have been amended to more clearly state the invention. Indicated allowable claims 14, 16 and 17 have been if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 7 and 15 have been cancelled. Dependent claims 8-13, as amended, depend from indicated allowable rewritten independent claim 14. Reconsideration and allowance of each of the pending claims 1-6, 8-14, and 16-17, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Hinoshita et al., U.S. patent 5,528,152 discloses a method for measuring transmission parameters of a balanced pair, a unbalanced type equipment which is widely used as compared to a balanced type equipment which is not used in practical is used. In the measurement, the balanced pair is connected to the unbalanced type equipment or via a unbalanced/balanced type transformer thereto at the measuring end, wherein predetermined terminated states are set at the measuring and far-ends to measure input admittances dependent on the terminated states. A characteristic impedance and a propagation constant for the transmission parameters are calculated from predetermined equations into which the measured input admittances are substituted.

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Muntz, U.S. patent 6,532,215 discloses a device and method for network communications and diagnostics. One embodiment of the device includes a processor for generating a time-domain reflectometry testing stimulus signal when the device is operating in a network diagnostic mode. The testing signal is supplied to the network to cause the network to generate a reflection signal thereof from which presence and characteristics of a fault condition in the network may be determined.

Independent claim 1, as amended, defines a method for implementing automated electronic package transmission line characteristic impedance verification. The subject matter of independent claim 1, as amended, is not disclosed or suggested by the references of record, including Hineshita et al. and Muntz. Independent claim 1, as amended, further defines the method of the invention reciting the steps of: providing a transmission line test structure, said transmission line test structure representing conductors on a card, and providing a single integrated circuit device disposed on said card; said single integrated circuit device implementing automated electronic package transmission line characteristic impedance verification steps. Thus, independent claim 1, as amended, is patentable for the same reasons as indicated allowable claims 14 and 16.

Each of the dependent claims 2-6, and 8-13, depend from respective patentable independent claims 1, and 14, and further define the invention. Each of the dependent claims 2-6, and 8-13 is patentable.

Applicants have reviewed all the art of record, and respectfully submit that the claimed invention is patentable over all the art of record, including the references

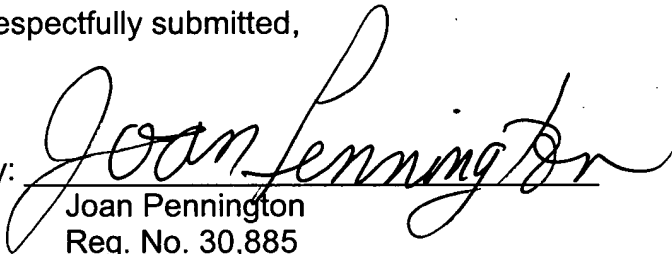
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not relied upon by the Examiner for the rejection of the pending claims.

It is believed that the present application is now in condition for allowance and allowance of each of the pending claims 1-6, 8-14, and 16-17, as amended, is respectfully requested. Prompt and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner upon considering this amendment should find that a telephone interview would be helpful in expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is respectfully urged to call the applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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